

### 3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

---

This section provides more detailed information on existing conditions relative to each environmental topic addressed in this section, programmatic-level impact analyses and conclusions, and mitigation measures. Existing conditions discussions define the environmental conditions that currently exist on and near the project site, while impacts are defined as the potential effects of implementing the existing General Plan on the existing environment. Wherever a project impact is identified as being significant, mitigation measures are recommended that would reduce the level of impact. Technical topics addressed in this EIR section were defined by the City of Santa Clarita during the scoping process and from comments received on the Notice of Preparation (see **Appendix 1.0** for copies of these documents and the comments received). The purpose of this section is to inform readers of the type and magnitude of the environmental impact and how such impacts would affect the existing environment.

The City's General Plan EIR addresses the potential impacts of implementing the City's proposed General Plan policies. Program EIRs do not necessarily address the site-specific impacts that each of the subsequent individual development projects will have. The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires each of those subsequent development projects to be evaluated for their particular site-specific impacts. Air quality, global climate change, and water services are analyzed on a regional basis for the OVOV Planning Area. Noise and transportation/circulation also have a more regional analysis. The remaining sections, other than cumulative impacts, focus on potential impacts within the City's Planning Area.

Each section also includes a "Plan to Plan" analysis comparing the existing General Plan to the Proposed OVOV Plan. While not required by CEQA, it provides the public with a brief comparison of the two Plans, which has been a concern voiced by the public throughout the preparation of the General Plan and the EIR.

Documents referred to, referenced or cited are incorporated by reference and are available for review at the City of Santa Clarita, Community Development Department, 23920 Valencia Boulevard, Suite 140, Santa Clarita, California 91355.